

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE:

April 4, 1952

SUBJECT:

Proposed Japanese FCN Labor Clause

PARTICIPANTS:

Mr. Philip Aron, Department of Labor.
Mr. Glenn O. Smyser, E/L

COPIES TO:

1 - Mr. Thorp
1 - Mr. Ladd
1 - Mr. Egan
1 - Mr. Sullivan

2916P
2917B

*What's the best
solution?
problem?*

During discussion with Mr. Aron on the feasibility of incorporating the labor clause in the proposed Japanese FCN Treaty, he reported the following:

Some months ago the Secretary of Labor received complaints from the Governor of Puerto Rico arising out of alleged unfair trade competition from the Japanese, particularly in the hand-woven textile business. As a result of these complaints, Secretary Tobin sent Assistant Secretary Gurney to Japan to make a survey of Japanese labor conditions in industries whose products get into international trade.

Since his return, Assistant Secretary Gurney has come up with the recommendation (reported to have been discussed with and approved by General Ridgway) that a Joint U. S. - Japanese tripartite trade relations commission be set up by Executive Order. The commission would not hold public hearings but through consultation with interested individuals and groups would explore all aspects of trade promotion, including the effect of Japanese labor conditions upon international competition. It would be expected that the report issued by the commission would provide support for the negotiation of the proposed FCN treaty.

Although

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY: *KD* DATE *9-30-82*

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH: REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Although this recommendation has not yet been officially presented by the Department of Labor, it is reported that it has Secretary Tobin's blessing.

E/L:COBwayze:ras